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BOARD OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY MEETING TAKEN
IN THE LOUISIANA STATE EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT
SYSTEM BUILDING, FOURTH FLOOR BOARD ROOM, 8401
UNITED PLAZA BOULEVARD, BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA
70809 ON THE 9TH DAY OF DECEMBER, 2010 COMMENCING
AT 1:52 P.M.

REPORTED BY:

RACHEL Y. TORRES, CCR, RPR
CERTIFIED COURT REPORTER

♀

1 APPEARANCES OF BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

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GALE POTTS-ROQUE
CHARLES SOPRANO
RICHARD GONSOLIN
MAYOR RONNIE HARRIS
STEVEN GRISSOM
JEFFREY ELMORE
MILLIE ATKINS
ANDRE FRUGE
LANCE BELCHER
WILLIAM KING
R.K. MEHROTRA

APPEARANCES OF STAFF:

MELISSA SORRELL
KRISTY MCKEARN
FRANK FAVALORO
DARYL MANNING
BRENDA GUESS
LORI WEBER
MARYLYN FRIEDKIN
RICK BROUSSARD
RANDY VEILLON

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MR. ELMORE:
If we can go ahead and get
started. Is my microphone on?
MS. WEBER:

6 board of commerce-12-9-10.txt
No.
7 MR. ELMORE:
8 Now it's on. Thank you. The
9 middle button. Okay. welcome to
10 the Board of Commerce Industry
11 meeting this December 9th. We'll
12 go ahead and have roll call,
13 please. Melissa.
14 MS. SORRELL:
15 Tammy Woods for Governor
16 Jindal. Julie Vezinot for
17 Lieutenant Governor. Millie
18 Atkins.
19 MS. ATKINS:
20 Here.
21 MS. SORRELL:
22 Lance Belcher.
23 MR. BELCHER:
24 Present.
25 MS. SORRELL:

♀

4

1 Bryan Bossier. Gordon
2 Burgess. Mark Delesdernier.
3 Jeffrey Elmore.
4 MR. ELMORE:
5 Here.
6 MS. SORRELL:
7 Andre Fruge.
8 MR. FRUGE:
9 Here.

board of commerce-12-9-10.txt
10 MS. SORRELL:
11 Richard Gonsulin.
12 MR. GONSULIN:
13 Here.
14 MS. SORRELL:
15 Mayor Ronnie Harris.
16 MR. HARRIS:
17 Present.
18 MS. SORRELL:
19 Harold Jones. William King.
20 MR. KING:
21 Here.
22 MS. SORRELL:
23 Kevin Langley. Richard
24 Lipsey. R.K. Mehrotra.
25 MR. MEHROTRA:

♀

5

1 Here.
2 MS. SORRELL:
3 Steven Grissom for Secretary
4 Moret.
5 MR. MORET:
6 Here.
7 MS. SORRELL:
8 Gale Potts-Roque.
9 MS. POTTS-ROQUE:
10 Here.
11 MS. SORRELL:
12 Wilda Smith. Charles
13 Soprano.

14 board of commerce-12-9-10.txt
MR. SOPRANO:

15 Here.

16 MS. SORRELL:

17 We have a quorum.

18 MR. ELMORE:

19 Thank you, Ms. Sorrell. We
20 have a quorum. I will accept a
21 motion for the approval of the
22 minutes. So moved by Mr. Fruge;
23 second by Mr. King. All in
24 favor?

25 ALL BOARD MEMBERS:

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6

1 Aye.

2 MR. ELMORE:

3 Any nays? Hearing none,
4 motion carries.

5 Okay. Mr. Favaloro will now
6 present the Quality Jobs Program,
7 please.

8 MR. FAVALORO:

9 Okay. I have five Quality
10 Jobs applications. 20090154,
11 Allen's Electric Motor Service in
12 Caddo. 20080841, Aquatic Energy,
13 LLC in Jefferson Davis.
14 20100907, Covalent Logic, LLC in
15 East Baton Rouge. 20101001,
16 International Paper Company in
17 DeSoto. 20080918, Yara North

18 board of commerce-12-9-10.txt
19 America Inc. in St. James. That
20 concludes the applications.

21 MR. ELMORE:

22 Okay. Do I have a motion for
23 approval of the new applications?

24 MS. ATKINS:

25 So move.

MR. ELMORE:

7

1 Motion by Ms. Atkins. Second
2 by Mr. Belcher. I'm going to
3 open the floor for public
4 comments. Do we have any public
5 comments? No public comment.
6 Floor is now closed. All in
7 favor.

8 ALL BOARD MEMBERS:

9 Eye.

10 MR. ELMORE:

11 Any nays? Hearing none,
12 motion carries.

13 MR. FAVALORO:

14 I have three renewal
15 applications. 20040187, American
16 Advanced Technologies, LLC in
17 Terrebonne. 051209, Cleco Power,
18 LLC in Rapides. 20040225,
19 IPC-Louisiana, LLC in Rapides.
20 That concludes the renewals.

21 MR. HARRIS:

22 board of commerce-12-9-10.txt
I move for its approval.

23 MR. ELMORE:

24 Motion by Mr. Harris. Second
25 by Ms. Roque. I open the floor

8

1 for public comment. Any public
2 comments? Hearing none, the
3 floor is closed. All in favor?

4 ALL BOARD MEMBERS:

5 Aye.

6 MR. ELMORE:

7 Any nays? Hearing none.

8 MR. FAVALORO:

9 There are two requests for
10 change of location of the
11 operating site only. Calls Plus,
12 2003-0282 from West Pinhook Road
13 in Lafayette to Travis Street in
14 Lafayette. And ProForce, LLC,
15 2003-0538 from 47108 Conrad East
16 Anderson Street in Hammond to
17 40507 Pumpkin Center Road in
18 Hammond. That concludes the
19 request for change.

20 MR. ELMORE:

21 Do I have a motion. I have a
22 motion by Mr. Harris. Second by
23 Mr. King. Open the floor for
24 public comment. No public
25 comment. Now closed. All in

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favor?
ALL BOARD MEMBERS:
Aye.
MR. ELMORE:
Any nays? Hearing none,
motion carries.
MR. FAVALORO:
I have one Request for Change
in Name Only. 2001-0136,
Cingular Wireless Employee
Services, LLC to AT&T Mobility
Services, LLC in Lafayette.
MR. ELMORE:
Okay. Do I have a motion?
Ms. Roque. Second by Mr. Fruge.
Open the floor for public
comment. Hearing none, it's
closed. All in favor?
ALL BOARD MEMBERS:
Aye.
MR. ELMORE:
Any nays? Hearing none,
motion carries.
So, lastly, Mr. Favaloro.
MR. FAVALORO:

♀

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2

One have one request for
contract cancellation. The

3 Folger Coffee Company, 2010-0720.
4 The company has requested that
5 the approval of the application
6 member, which was approved by the
7 Board of Commerce and Industry on
8 10-26-2010 be canceled. The
9 company has indicated that the
10 application was filed
11 prematurely. Located in Orleans
12 Parish.

13 MR. ELMORE:

14 Just called and canceled?

15 MR. FAVALORO:

16 They are going to reapply
17 later.

18 MR. ELMORE:

19 Okay. All right. Do I have
20 a motion to approve? Mr. Fruge.
21 And second by Mr. Belcher. Floor
22 is open for public comment. No
23 public comment. All in favor?

24 ALL BOARD MEMBERS:

25 Aye.

11

1 MR. ELMORE:

2 Any nays? Hearing none,
3 motion carries. Thank you, Mr.
4 Favaloro.

5 So Mr. Veillon will move into
6 the Restoration Tax Abatement

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Program.
MR. VEILLON:
Okay. Mr. Chairman, we have two applications. We have 070030, Cyntreniks Group doing business as Kress-Levy Project, LLC in East Baton Rouge Parish. An investment of \$21 million, 40 new jobs and 100 construction jobs.
And, lastly, we have 20090035, Schlumberger Technology Corporation in Caddo Parish. An investment of \$12,314,200 for 165 new permanent jobs and 98 construction jobs. And that concludes the presentation.
MR. ELMORE:
Do I have a motion offer? By

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Mr. Harris, and second by Mr. Fruge. Open the floor for public comment. No public comment. All in favor?
ALL BOARD MEMBERS:
Aye.
MR. ELMORE:
Any nays? Hearing none, motion carries.
We have, Mr. Veillon, one

11 contract cancellation?

12 MR. VEILLON:

13 Yes, sir. Mr. Chairman, the
14 contract for Carbone Properties
15 of Audubon, LLC, Contract Number
16 2003-0017. This contract was
17 approved by the Board of Commerce
18 on October 25, 2005. The
19 combination of Hurricane Katrina
20 and the downturn in the economy
21 put the project out of business
22 leaving the building interior as
23 incomplete -- as an incomplete
24 shell. Burgundy Development, LLC
25 Acquired the property and has

13

1 filed an advance to complete the
2 project. I consulted with our
3 legal division. We tried to
4 contact the Carbone Properties
5 people. We sent two letters out;
6 one with a 30 day notice and a
7 ten day notice and we were going
8 to cancel the contract and the
9 letters came back return to
10 sender. Legal said that was
11 fine, 40 days notice was
12 sufficient, and since the Board
13 had approved this contract and
14 the contract was executed, we

15 need for the Board to cancel this
16 particular contract so that the
17 new people -- the new entity that
18 bought the project can apply for
19 the RTA, and so we recommend
20 this.

21 MR. ELMORE:

22 Mr. Veillon, the contract was
23 executed or was not?

24 MR. VEILLON:

25 well, it was signed, yes. It

14

♀

1 was signed. That's why we had to
2 get it canceled.

3 MR. ELMORE:

4 Okay. This is typical
5 protocol to try to reach them and
6 contact them.

7 MR. VEILLON:

8 Yeah. We gave them notice.
9 Legal advised us, Mr. Cangelosi
10 and Mr. Manning said it would be
11 okay as long as we gave them at
12 least 30 days notice.

13 MR. ELMORE:

14 As long as legal gave the
15 approval, we should be good.

16 Okay. Motion to accept
17 cancellation.

18 MR. BELCHER:

19 I have a question. Two
20 questions. What kind of project
21 is it? And under the Burgundy,
22 LLC -- Burgundy Development, LLC,
23 I guess y'all checked to make
24 sure that they can finish it out.

25 MR. VEILLON:

15

1 well, I believe it was a
2 Marriott Hotel project, but the
3 Burgundy, we don't know anything
4 about them. They are going to
5 apply for the RTA. They bought
6 the property. That's what New
7 Orleans has advised us, but they
8 are getting ready to apply for
9 the application at present.

10 MR. BELCHER:

11 So they haven't yet applied
12 yet?

13 MR. VEILLON:

14 I believe they made an
15 advance -- they applied for the
16 advance but not an application.

17 MR. BELCHER:

18 And so basically it's an
19 advance?

20 MR. VEILLON:

21 Yes.

22 MR. ELMORE:

23 Okay. If there are no more
24 questions, do I have a motion to
25 approve the cancellation of that

16

1 particular contract. So moved by
2 Mr. Fruge. Second by Mr.
3 Gonsulin. Open the floor for
4 public comment. No public
5 comment. All in favor?

6 ALL BOARD MEMBERS:

7 Aye.

8 MR. ELMORE:

9 Any nays? Hearing none,
10 motion carried. Thank you, Mr.
11 Veillon.

12 MR. VEILLON:

13 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

14 MR. ELMORE:

15 Mr. Friedkin will now present
16 Enterprise Zone Program, please.

17 MS. FRIEDKIN:

18 I need to remove one
19 application off the agenda.
20 Springfield, LLC. They have asked
21 to be removed after looking at
22 their employment and everything
23 that they will not be able to
24 meet the hiring requirements, so
25 they would like to cancel the

17

1 application.

2 MR. ELMORE:

3 Okay. Do we need a motion to
4 -- so we'll exclude it. You will
5 read it in and exclude it? Okay.
6 Sorry about that.

7 MS. FRIEDKIN:

8 well, I was just not going to
9 read it if it was okay with
10 y'all.

11 MR. ELMORE:

12 That sounds great. Sorry.
13 Go for it.

14 MS. FRIEDKIN:

15 All right. Advance Stores
16 Company, Inc. in Lafayette.
17 Ambassador Partnership in
18 Lafayette. Anthropology, Inc. in
19 New Orleans. Bogalusa Community
20 Medical Center in Washington.
21 Business First Bank in
22 Terrebonne. Celtic Management
23 Corporation in East Baton Rouge,
24 Delta Campus Facility Corporation
25 in Ouachita. Garman, LLC in West

18

1 Baton Rouge. Harvard Property

2 Trust, LLC in Orleans. IF

board of commerce-12-9-10.txt
3 Enterprises of Shreveport, LLC in
4 Caddo. JPS Equipment, LLC in
5 Ascension. Magic Seasoning
6 Blends Incorporated in Jefferson.
7 Millennium Golf & Country Club,
8 LLC, Livingston. Morgan City
9 Hotel, LLC in St. Mary. Mr.
10 Mudbug Incorporated in Jefferson.
11 North Oaks Pediatric Clinic, LLC
12 in Tangipahoa. Notami Hospitals
13 of Louisiana, Inc. in St.
14 Tammany. Offshore Equipment
15 Solutions, LLC, St. Tammany.
16 Patricia Braly MD APMC in St.
17 Tammany. Performance Contractors
18 Incorporated in East Baton Rouge.
19 Pixel Magic, LLC in Lafayette.
20 Rapides Healthcare Systems LP in
21 Rapides. I have six
22 Rehabilitation Services; one is
23 in Acadian, LLC in Lafayette
24 Parish. One is in CENLA, LLC in
25 Rapides. Another one in CENLA,

19

1 LLC in Vernon. Another one in
2 CENLA in Avoyelles. One in
3 Northeast Louisiana, LLC in
4 Ouachita. And one in Southwest
5 Louisiana, LLC in Calcasieu.
6 Rougeou Clyde L Jr., DDS in

7 board of commerce-12-9-10.txt
Iberia. Southern Bar-B-Q Sauce,
8 Inc. in Jeff Davis. Southern Eye
9 Institute, LLC in Terrebonne.
10 SRBR, LLC in East Baton Rouge.
11 Southgate Suites, LLC in East
12 Baton Rouge. Stolthaven, New
13 Orleans, LLC in Plaquemines.
14 USAgencies Management Services,
15 Inc. in East Baton Rouge.
16 University Healthcare Systems, LC
17 in Orleans. Walgreens, Louisiana
18 Company, Inc., No. 12428 in
19 Lafayette.

20 And then there are two
21 front-end contracts. One with
22 Georgia Pacific Consumer
23 Operations in East Baton Rouge,
24 and Plains Marketing LP in St.
25 James.

20

1

MR. ELMORE:

2

Okay. Thank you. So with
3 the exception of Springfield,
4 which is withdrawn, which was not
5 read by Ms. Friedkin, do I have a
6 motion to approve the new
7 application. Mr. Soprano and
8 second by Mr. Belcher.

9

MR. BELCHER:

10

No. I need to recuse myself

11 board of commerce-12-9-10.txt
from one.

12 MR. ELMORE:

13 Okay.

14 MR. BELCHER:

15 I need to recuse myself,
16 20090990, Business First Bank.

17 MS. POTTS ROQUE:

18 Recuse yourself --

19 MR. BELCHER:

20 I'm sorry?

21 MR. ELMORE:

22 How about you'll abstain from
23 the vote.

24 MR. BELCHER:

25 However you want to do it.

21

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1 MR. ELMORE:

2 Okay. So Mr. Belcher --
3 please note that Mr. Belcher will
4 abstain from the vote. Do we
5 have a motion on the table by Mr.
6 Soprano and second by Mr. Fruge.
7 Open the floor for public
8 comment. No public comment. All
9 in favor?

10 ALL BOARD MEMBERS (EXCEPTION
11 OF MR. BELCHER):

12 Aye.

13 MR. ELMORE:

14 Any nays? Hearing none,

15 board of commerce-12-9-10.txt
16 motion carries.

17 So, Ms. Friedkin, now 16
18 Contract/Application
19 Cancellation.

20 MS. FRIEDKIN:
21 Yes, sir. Actually, there
22 are 15 cancellations of contracts
23 and one application.

24 MR. ELMORE:
25 Okay. Great.

MS. FRIEDKIN:

22

1 Dupre Transport, LLC. The
2 company request cancellation
3 because no jobs were created.
4 Abdon Callais Offshore, LLC. The
5 hiring requirements were not met.
6 Dupree Logistics, LLC. The hiring
7 requirements were not met. Diaz
8 II Incorporated doing business as
9 Carrollton Avenue Shell. The
10 hiring requirements were not met.
11 Diaz II Incorporated doing
12 business as Clearview Shell. The
13 hiring requirements were not met.
14 Diaz II Incorporated doing
15 business as Cleary Shell. The
16 hiring requirements were not met.
17 Diaz II Incorporated doing
18 business as LaPlace Shell. The

board of commerce-12-9-10.txt
19 hiring requirements were not met.
20 Diaz II Incorporated doing
21 business as Latin Shell. The
22 hiring requirements were not met.
23 Diaz II Incorporated doing
24 business as Loyola Shell. The
25 hiring requirements were not met.

23

♀

1 Diaz II Incorporated doing
2 business as Luling Shell. The
3 hiring requirements were not met.
4 Diaz II Incorporated doing
5 business as Transcontinental
6 Shell. The hiring requirements
7 were not met. Diaz II
8 Incorporated doing business as
9 Old Metairie Shell II, the hiring
10 requirements were not met. Diaz
11 II Incorporated doing business as
12 Airport Shell, the hiring
13 requirements were not met. Diaz
14 II Incorporated doing business as
15 Avondale Shell, the hiring
16 requirements were not met.
17 Federal Express Corporation, the
18 hiring requirements were not met.
19 Those were all contract
20 cancellations. And then there is
21 one application cancellation and
22 that was for Federal Express

23 board of commerce-12-9-10.txt
24 Corporation, and they cannot meet
the hiring requirements either.

25 MR. ELMORE:

24

1 Okay. Do I have a motion to
2 accept? By Ms. Roque, and second
3 by --

4 MR. HARRIS:

5 I will second but I have a
6 question.

7 MR. ELMORE:

8 Second by Mr. Harris and he
9 has a question.

10 MR. HARRIS:

11 Obviously Diaz II, did they
12 know what they were doing? I
13 mean, were they one organization
14 or they were many different
15 organizations?

16 MS. FRIEDKIN:

17 One organization.

18 MR. HARRIS:

19 One organization. Did they
20 think that -- I mean, a shell is
21 usually a cashier behind the
22 thing, so isn't it minimum of
23 five?

24 MS. FRIEDKIN:

25 Or increase your workforce by

25

1 ten percent in the first year,
2 but 35 percent of your jobs, so
3 even if you hire just one, which
4 we all know if they are open 24
5 hours a day they would have more
6 than one, those would have to
7 meet one of those 35 -- one of
8 those four hiring requirements,
9 and, you know, a lot of people
10 get all excited when they hear --

11 MR. HARRIS:

12 Benefits but they have to
13 produce.

14 MS. FRIEDKIN:

15 Right.

16 MR. HARRIS:

17 And I guess when they make
18 applications like this, I mean,
19 are they counseled, like, okay,
20 tell us what you are doing and,
21 well, let me tell you what you
22 are up against?

23 MS. FRIEDKIN:

24 well, they have a consultant
25 and they force their consultants

26

1 to apply.

2 MR. HARRIS:

3 Thank you.

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MR. ELMORE:

Do we have any public comment? No public comment, so all in favor?

ALL BOARD MEMBERS:

Aye.

MR. ELMORE:

Any nays? Hearing none, motion carries. Thank you, Ms. Friedkin. Ms. Lori Weber move into Industrial Tax Exemption Applications.

MS. WEBER:

All right. For new applications, Abbott Enterprises in Orleans. Allen's Electric Motor Service in Caddo. American Warrior in St. Martin. Bayou Wood Pellets in Ouachita. Cos-Mar Company in Iberville. Criterion Catalyst & Technologies in West Baton Rouge. Two Dow

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Chemical in Iberville. Two Folger Companies in Orleans. Gulf Crown Seafood in Iberia. Hunt Forest Products in Union. Next Autoworks Louisiana, LLC in Ouachita, and this is a front-end contract. Southern Foods Group

8 doing business as Brown's Velvet,
9 Orleans. There are five Southern
10 Recycling; two in Terrebonne and
11 three in West Baton Rouge.
12 Textron Marine & Land Systems,
13 Orleans. Trinity Yachts,
14 Orleans. United States Gypsum
15 Company, Orleans. And W.R. Grace
16 & Company in Calcasieu.

17 MR. ELMORE:

18 Okay. I was just looking and
19 recognized Next Autoworks
20 Louisiana out of Ouachita.
21 That's a big operation,
22 apparently. What is that? Just
23 curious.

24 MS. WEBER:

25 Mr. Grissom can explain.

28

1 MR. GRISSOM:

2 That is a company formerly
3 known as V-Vehicle. They changed
4 their name recently.

5 MR. ELMORE:

6 Okay. Thank you, Steven. So
7 do I have a motion to accept?
8 Mr. Fruge. Second by Mr. King.
9 Open the floor for public
10 comment. No public comment. Now
11 closed for public comment. All

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in favor?
ALL BOARD MEMBERS:
Aye.
MR. ELMORE;. .
Any nays? Hearing none,
motion carries.
MS. WEBER:
Okay. Do you want to do the
specials or the renewals?
MR. ELMORE:
Either way.
MS. WEBER:
Okay. I will go ahead and do
-- the first is Change of

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Location, Hogan Hardwoods.
Contract No. 20020037 and
20030539. Moving from 2301
McDonald Avenue in Ruston to 189
Haddox Road in Ruston. This is in
Lincoln Parish.
MR. ELMORE:
Okay. Motion to accept? Mr.
Harris. Second by Ms. Atkins.
Open the floor for public
comments. No public comments.
All in favor?
ALL BOARD MEMBERS:
Aye.
MR. ELMORE:

board of commerce-12-9-10.txt

16 Any nays? Hearing none,
17 motion carries.

18 MS. WEBER:

19 Transfer of Ownership. Arch
20 Chemical/Peak Sulfur. Contract
21 No. 20019217 and 20029282 are
22 being changed to Chemtrade
23 Refinery Services in Caddo.

24 MR. ELMORE:

25 Okay. Motion to accept. Mr.

30

♀

1 Soprano. Second by Ms. Roque.
2 Any public comments? No public
3 comments. All in favor?

4 ALL BOARD MEMBERS:

5 Aye. Any nays? Hearing none,
6 motion carries.

7 MS. WEBER:

8 All right. Cancellation.

9 Trane Company. All active
10 contracts. The company has moved
11 and building and assets have
12 sold. The consultant notified
13 the Department and the decision
14 was made to cancel these
15 contracts. This is in Webster
16 Parish.

17 weyerhaeuser, they are all
18 active contracts in Bienville.

19 The company sold its facility and

board of commerce-12-9-10.txt

20 it was being auctioned off on the
21 August -- or November 9th.
22 Company has requested that the
23 contracts be canceled.
24 Dow Con. Contract No. 050546.
25 The company closed in 2008

♀

31

1 because of the illness of the
2 owner. We were informed by the
3 Assessor of this fact. We sent a
4 letter with the November 15th
5 deadline and got no response, so
6 we're requesting that we cancel
7 this contract. Ouachita Parish.
8 Chemtrade Refinery Services.
9 Contract No. 20029282. The taxes
10 were paid on this contract so
11 we're requesting cancellation
12 after we change the name. That's
13 Caddo Parish.

14 MR. ELMORE:

15 Okay. Thank you. Motion to
16 accept Cancellation. Mr.
17 Gonsulin. And second by Ms.
18 Atkins. Open for public
19 comments. Hearing no public
20 comments, we are now closed. All
21 in favor?

22 ALL BOARD MEMBERS:

23 Aye.

24

MR. ELMORE:

25

Any nays? Hearing none,

32

1

motion carries.

2

MS. WEBER:

3

Okay. I have 21 Renewals.

4

A.G. Simpson (USA) Incorporated,

5

Caddo. Blake International Real

6

Estate in Terrebonne. Two Cabot

7

Corporation in Evangeline. One

8

Criterion Catalyst & Technologies

9

in West Baton Rouge. INEOS

10

Americas in Iberville, which is

11

now -- no. I'm sorry. It's still

12

INEOS Americas. Pardon me.

13

Innophos, Ascension. There are

14

five Louisiana Generating in

15

Pointe Coupee. Four Motiva

16

Enterprises in St. James. Placid

17

Refining in West Baton Rouge.

18

Two Smurfit-Stone Container in

19

Jackson. Sterling Sugars in St.

20

Mary and Twin Brothers Marine in

21

St. Mary.

22

MR. ELMORE:

23

Okay. Do I have a motion to

24

accept the Renewals? So moved by

25

Mr. Fruge. Second by Mr.

33

1 Belcher. Open for public
2 comment. No public comment. All
3 in favor?

4 ALL BOARD MEMBERS:

5 Aye.

6 MR. ELMORE:

7 Any nays? Hearing none,
8 motion carries. Thank you, Ms.
9 Weber.

10 MS. WEBER:

11 Uh-huh (affirmative
12 response).

13 MR. ELMORE:

14 We'll now move into a
15 presentation by Ms. Cradeur.

16 MS. CRADEUR:

17 Mr. Chairman and fellow Board
18 members, I appreciate your
19 allowing me on the agenda. I am
20 here to present an application
21 for the Atchafalaya Trace
22 Heritage Area Development Zone on
23 tax credit, which is a tax credit
24 for small entrepreneur business
25 located within one of the

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1 fourteen parishes of the
2 Atchafalaya National Heritage
3 area. We have one application

4 board of commerce-12-9-10.txt
5 this year and it was the
6 Outfitter -- Outdoor Outfitter
7 Pack and Paddle in Lafayette,
8 Louisiana. A very appropriate
9 business in that it provides
10 access to the resources of the
11 heritage area. Their application
12 was spotless. It was very well
13 done. All due diligence with the
14 Louisiana Workforce Commission.
15 Economic Development and
16 Department of Revenue was done
17 before the Review Board met in
18 November, and approved-- or
19 approved recommending this
20 application for the tax credit to
21 this Board. This is the first
22 applicant that has applied for
23 both the business tax credit and
24 the employee tax credit.

24 MS. POTTS-ROQUE:

25 I make a motion to accept the

35

1 application approval.

2 MR. ELMORE:

3 We have a motion on the
4 floor. Thank you for presenting
5 it to us and being here today.
6 Motion on the table for Ms.
7 Roque. Second by Ms. Atkins.

8 board of commerce-12-9-10.txt
Do we have any public
9 comments? No public comments. Any
10 questions? All in favor?
11 ALL BOARD MEMBERS:
12 Aye.
13 MR. ELMORE:
14 Any nays? Hearing none,
15 motion accepted.
16 MS. CRADEUR:
17 Thank you.
18 MR. ELMORE:
19 Thank you.
20 MR. ELMORE:
21 Okay. I think we're going to
22 jump right into Mr. Steven
23 Grissom presenting.
24 MR. GRISSOM:
25 Certainly. Thank you, Mr.

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1 Chairman. We work hard to achieve
2 a quorum, and I appreciate that
3 so that we can move forward on to
4 this important business. I
5 wanted to just provide a few
6 updates. I will be brief. I
7 guess I will start by saying it
8 remains a challenging time both
9 within the state and I think
10 across the globe. Despite that,
11 the state and Department

board of commerce-12-9-10.txt
12 continues to achieve successes
13 and continues to outperform the
14 south in the nation as a whole.
15 I wanted to point to two examples
16 of that today. One is an
17 announcement -- a new project
18 announcement that really was just
19 -- that just occurred, and this
20 is a facility, DG Foods. It's a
21 major reprocessing facility in
22 the Bastrop area. It's a project
23 estimated to bring in 317 new
24 direct jobs to the state. 936
25 indirect jobs would be created

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1 because of that -- of the new
2 activity, and a very exciting
3 opportunity for Bastrop and north
4 Louisiana, certainly in the
5 context of some of the difficult
6 times that that area of the state
7 has been facing, so we're very
8 excited about that announcement.
9 It was just announced today. DG
10 Foods is going to move into an
11 existing 88,000 square foot
12 building, and the company expects
13 to close on that property in
14 January of next year. So one
15 piece of good news.

board of commerce-12-9-10.txt
Another item I wanted to

16
17 speak with is regarding to the
18 overall Louisiana business
19 climate. And this is something
20 that the Department has been
21 working very diligently on and
22 the entire state has been working
23 diligently on. Many of the
24 changes, improvements that the
25 legislature has made over the

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1 last several years is starting to
2 be recognized, and this is just
3 one example. In November of this
4 year, a national publication site
5 selection recognized Louisiana as
6 among the top ten states for
7 business in the United States,
8 and this was the first time that
9 Louisiana had ever been ranked to
10 the top ten. This publication
11 had an 18 year history of this
12 ranking, and Louisiana actually
13 jumped 16 spots from 2009 to
14 2010. That was the largest gain
15 that Louisiana believed has ever
16 seen; certainly the largest
17 improvement of any state. The
18 manager of the publication made
19 some very positive comments about

board of commerce-12-9-10.txt
20 LED and the state. Just wanted to
21 share those with you. Louisiana
22 by moving up to 9th place in the
23 overall business climate ranking
24 and up to 7th place in the
25 executive business survey

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1 rankings shows that it's done the
2 hard work and you've got a top
3 notch Economic Development team
4 and program. Part of this
5 assessment was based on a survey
6 that was done by the magazine of
7 different national site selection
8 consultants to those that
9 assisted to and the location
10 decisions, and the state actually
11 performed a lot better in that
12 survey than had in the past, so
13 the manager was highlighting some
14 of that. LED has effectively
15 marketed the state as a
16 destination of choice for
17 business, and also the manager
18 commented on leaders at the local
19 regional levels throughout
20 Louisiana as part of the success,
21 so a bit of good news there.
22 Certainly a difficult time, but
23 another third party validation of

board of commerce-12-9-10.txt
24 the improvements the state is
25 making, recognition for the

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1 aggressive changes both from a
2 policy and what we call a product
3 development perspective. But
4 also a reflection of our
5 marketing efforts and our direct
6 business development efforts now
7 reach the company, so I wanted to
8 share that good news with you. I
9 want to thank you very much for
10 your service and it's been a
11 pleasure working with you this
12 year, and be happy to answer any
13 questions.

14 MR. HARRIS:

15 Mr. Grissom, I had a question
16 relative to several months ago we
17 went through a process relative
18 to Rules Committee, and could you
19 give me a status as to where we
20 are because I know that was like
21 the first step in the process, so
22 how are we doing.

23 MR. MORET:

24 Certainly. I will try my
25 best. If there is detailed

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1 questions we may need to have
2 Daryl address the Board as well.
3 As a general update, we -- upon
4 the, I guess, the final meeting
5 of the Rules Committee and then
6 the approval by the Board, the
7 rules for three programs in
8 particular where we spent a
9 considerable amount of time;
10 Enterprise Zone, Quality Jobs,
11 Industrial Tax Exemption Program,
12 those were essentially submitted
13 to the Louisiana Register for
14 publication, public comment. The
15 -- just for some logistical
16 reasons, Industrial Tax Exemption
17 Program Enterprise Program went
18 first, and Quality Jobs Program
19 went subsequent to that. We have
20 received some public comments;
21 some of those are new comments,
22 some of those are comments that I
23 think the Rules Committee and
24 Board deliberate upon during our
25 discussions, but we have reviewed

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1 those comments and I believe we
2 are still in what is essentially
3 a waiting period before those
4 rules would be finalized, so the

5 process is moving along, but my
6 perspective the new rules that
7 might incorporate comments have
8 not been finalized, but we would
9 expect that to happen in the next
10 two months.

11 MR. HARRIS:

12 Thank you.

13 MR. GRISSOM:

14 Is that fair Daryl.

15 MR. MANNING:

16 Good. That was good.

17 MR. ELMORE:

18 Okay. No further questions.

19 Mr. Grissom, thank you for being
20 here. Thank you for the recap,
21 and we have enjoyed working with
22 you all year as well.

23 Okay. So without any further
24 ado, everyone have safe travels.
25 Happy holidays, especially to our

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1 staff. Thank you guys for all
2 your hard work this year. Any
3 questions?

4 MR. GRISSOM:

5 If I could make one last
6 comment.

7 MR. ELMORE:

8 Of course.

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MR. GRISSOM:

There is a handout that we provided. It's a nine page handout titled: Creating the Next Great American Business Investment and Economic Opportunity, an overview of LED priorities. This is -- this provides a good sense of where LED continues to focus its attention, highlight some of the successes we he had over the last two years, what we're focused on currently. If you have a few minutes I think it will provide a nice read and just give you a thorough overview of where the

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Department is spending its energy, so I encourage that.

MR. ELMORE:

Thank you so much. Do I have a motion to adjourn? I think I do. The meeting is adjourned. Thank you.

(Whereupon the meeting has been adjourned at 2:24 p.m.)

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REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

I, RACHEL Y. TORRES, a Certified Court Reporter, do hereby certify that the within witness, after having been first duly sworn to testify to the truth, did testify as hereinabove set forth.

That the testimony was reported by me in shorthand and transcribed under my personal direction and supervision, and is a true and correct transcript, to the best of my ability and understanding; that I am not of counsel, not related to counsel or the parties hereto, and in no way interested in the outcome of this event.

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RACHEL Y. TORRES, CCR, RPR

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